

REMARKS:

This amendment is for the purpose of adding Claims 35-37 which are directed to an additional feature of the invention relating to the incorporation of certain aspects of the invention in sweat pants. In that regard, conventional sweat pants use a drawstring in order to adjust the waist size of the sweat pants. As pointed out on page 27 of the application draw strings have a number of disadvantages such as tending to break or shrinking and getting lost inside the hole or tunnel as well as cutting into or making marks or lines around the waist. Newly added parent Claim 35 points out that the sweat pants are improved by including a waist adjusting system to eliminate such drawstrings. The waist adjusting system would be located at the mid-section which includes the abdomen, waist, hips, buttocks and thighs. Support is found at various places in the application, such as page 27 for such definition of mid-section. In accordance with Claim 35 the adjusting system includes a direction changing member which is defined in dependent Claim 36 as being a loop which is anchored to the mid-section. In addition, an elongated length control member is defined in parent Claim 35 as being anchored at one end to the mid-section, laterally spaced from the direction changing member. The length control member extends to and is

bendable about the direction changing member in a reverse direction toward itself to pull against the direction changing member and thereby permit the adjustment of the distance between the direction changing member and the anchored end of the length control member. Once the length size is thereby adjusted Claim 35 recites locking structure to hold the length control member in this adjusted or bent and reversed direction condition. Dependent Claim 36 recites the length control member as being a strap with the locking structure being on the strap. Dependent Claim 37 further defines the strap as being disposed against itself with the locking structure being complementary hook/loop formations such as Velcro® on the two contacting surfaces of the strap. By using a strap (which would, of course, be wider than a conventional drawstring) as defined in Claims 36 and 37 or by having the waist adjusting structure defined in the manner of parent Claim 35, the disadvantages of conventional sweat pants would be avoided. For example, there would be no draw string to become lost or trapped within the tunnel, substantially completely surrounding the waist area in conventional sweat pants. In addition, there would be no draw string to shrink or break which would defeat the intended function of the draw string. Further, particularly where a strap is used as the length control member, such strap would be wider than a draw string and would

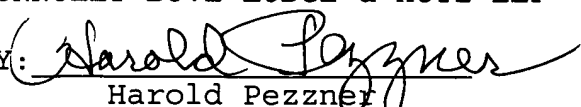
leave no marks around the waist of the user. In addition a strap would be more comfortable than a draw string. The claimed invention thereby provides a marked improvement over conventional sweat pants using draw strings by being easier to adjust and being adjustable more quickly. In that regard, in the normal use of a draw string when the intended size is reached the ends of the draw string are tied and secured together. If a loose securement such as through a bow tie is made, there is a risk that the tied ends could become unfastened thereby no longer functioning in the intended manner. Conversely, if a tight knot is made there is difficulty in untying the knot when it is desired to readjust the waist length or to remove the sweat pants with the use of conventional draw strings. Accordingly, the invention defined in Claims 35-37 represent a significant advancement over conventional sweat pants and those claims, along with the prior claims, should be allowed.

Since there are now three additional claims including one additional independent claim a fee of \$70.00 is required for this amendment. The Commissioner is authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-2775.

Respectfully Submitted,

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